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WASHINGTON (UPI) — Senate Democratic leader Robert Byrd proposed Monday the creation of a blue-ribbon commission to investigate Soviet spying in the United States and announced President Reagan had indicated his support.<

Byrd introduced a lution to create the eight-member National Commission on Espionage and Security with an 18-month mandate to "uncover the scope and magnitude" of espionage in America.<

Byrd said he talked to Reagan Monday and the president told him "he would certainly be happy to have a look at the resolution and seemed to be supportive."<

The Senate Democratic leader also said that former Presidents Richard Nixon and Jimmy Carter told him they support such a commission and would be willing to testify.<

He said former CIA Director Stanfield Turner, former Defense Secretary Harold Brown and former National Security chief Zbigniew Brzezinski endorsed the investigation.<

Byrd said the recent Walker case "made it clear to me there is a compelling need for the Congress to take urgent and aggressive action with respect to our government's ability to cope with Soviet espionage."<

"The Walker case is said to involve an individual alleged to have been spying for the Soviets for as long as 20 years and no one even suspected it," Byrd said. "Assertions continue that the top levels of our government, including the CIA itself, may have been penetrated by the KGB. Others strongly disagree. No one seems to know for sure.<

"This situation simply cannot be allowed to continue," he said. "We must take immediate action to uncover the scope and magnitude of this problem and then take strong and effective action to correct it," Byrd said.<

The resolution would direct the commission to investigate efforts made to penetrate the government, and the adequacy of counterintelligence and effectiveness of security clearances.<

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